KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) to (c). As on 31.12.91, the Central Government have appointed 296 notaries for the whole country, out of which 19 Notaries Act, 1952 and the Notaries Rules, 1956. The Central Government's concurrence is not required for appointment of notaries in any State.

(d) and (e). According to Karnataka Government's order dated 19th December, 1991, the strength of notaries in the State has been increased from 70 to 200.

[*Translation*]

License for Export of Fruits

5917. DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether licences to export fruits are issued by the Government;

(b) if so, the essential requirements therefor; and

(c) the number of such licences issued during 1989-90 and 1990-91?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Complaints Received by M.R.T.P.

5918. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of complaints received by the M.R.T.P. Commission during the last one year;

(b) the number of establishments against which action has been taken during the above period by M.R.T.P. Commission; and

(c) the details there of, Statewise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) to (c). During the year 1991, the MRTP Commission has received 5238 complaints against various undertakings or persons. On the basis of complaints relating to monopolistic, restrictive or unfair trade practices, the MRTP Commission instituted enquires during 1991, the Statewise details of which are given as under:

1.	Union territory of Delhi	105
2.	Karnataka	12
3.	Rajasthan	3
4.	Maharashtra	43
5.	Tamil Nadu	11
6.	Punjab	10
7.	West Bengal	11

8	Bihar	2
9.	Uttar Pradesh	13
10.	Haryana	2
11.	Andhra Pradesh	2
12.	Madhy Pradesh	1
13.	Chandigarh	1
14.	Kerala	5
15.	Gujarat	3
16.	Orissa	1
	Total:	225

The MRTP Commission being a quasi-judicial body is empowered to take neccessary
action on the complaints relating to various trade practices under the provisions of the MRTP Act, 1969.

[*English*]

Evasion of Customs Duty

5919. SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYAY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some cases of alleged customs duty evasion have been detected as reported in the 'Indian Express' of February 2, 1992;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken so far against the persons involved therein;

(d) the number of customs officials, if any, found involved in these cases and the action taken against them; and

(e) the corrective steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to check recurrence of such cases in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) to (e). Government are aware of the report in the Indian Express of February 2, 1992, under the heading "Huge import-invoicing racket unearthed".

Details of the cases, numbering isx, mentioned in the above report, are given below:

A importer based at Madras attempted to clear 90 mts. of Polyvinyl Alcohol by declaring the goods as 105 mts. of Ploy vinyl chloride resin. The attempted duty evasion us Rs. 1.21 crores. The goods were seized and 3 persons were arrested. The case been adjudicated. The goods on payment of a fine of Rs.10 lakhs. Penalities amounting to Rs. 3.75 lakhs were also imposed.